



ENDURING FREEDOM

Second Quarter  
Apr. - Jun 03

## Mobilized Reservist awarded NAM

AC1 Michael Nicholson, USNR of NR Tactical Air Control Squadron 1294 (VTC-1294) is awarded the Naval Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his efforts while serving as Tactical Air Controller, Tactical Air Control Squadron Det Three, while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“Attention to detail saved an aircrew from running into something really bad,” explained Lt. Cmdr Frank Cerney, TACRON 1194. “The aircraft wasn’t even under our control, and was reporting his altitude higher than was what our ACs determined him to be. They



caught it because they cared, and for that they were awarded accordingly. Four sailors were recognized with NAMs for this effort, AC1 Nicholson as the supervisor (& only reservist on this particular team) and AC2 Newcomb/OS2 Drost/AC3 Flores (active duty with TACRON 11).

Basic translation is that the aircraft are given altitude blocks to deconflict them from each other (keep them apart) and this particular aircraft was below his assigned altitude, thus exposing him to a potential mid-air collision with either a UAV or naval gunfire. I understand things got close, Cerney concluded.”



# Skippers's Corner



**D. L. Roy**

*CAPT, USNR*  
Commanding Officer



Welcome again to our quarterly newsletter. I trust you're getting valuable information in these newsletters. If you're not, please let me know what you would like to see included. Here's a potpourri of the recent happenings:

Several of our folks are in-theater, fighting the war. We have **347 Reservists from NAR San Diego on active duty today, serving our great country** in this time of war. Even one of our FTS staff, LCDR Al Cruz, is in-theater as part of a C-9 detachment. This is why we exist as an organization – to be ready for rapid mobilization and to augment the Fleet – and all our folks are performing wonderfully.

**Congressional interest** in the well being of Naval Reservists is high. Congresswoman Susan Davis visited us in December, Congressman Bob Filner visited last week, and Congressman "Duke" Cunningham is scheduled to visit us on 18 April. They come away with a great appreciation for what you do and they're all interested in helping in whatever way they can.

We had a great **Leadership Luncheon** in January featuring James Strock, author of *Reagan on Leadership* and *Theodore Roosevelt on Leadership*. The next one will be in May; standby for details.

I attended the **Commander Naval Reserve Force Policy Board** in March and we saw several excellent inputs from the field. Three lessons I took away:

- If you have an idea to improve the Force, submit it as a Policy Board issue. CNRF will be changing the process this year in order to make it a continuous process and greatly shorten the time it takes for an issue to be considered. The best ideas come from the field.

- The staff in New Orleans is very receptive to new ideas.
- The staff is pretty much in tune with the field. Many of the issues we saw were already being worked on by the staff.

The **Naval Reserve Force Transformation Initiative** (NRFTI) is also going strong. The national NRFTI team presented our top 100 issues to RADM McLaughlin, RADM Debbout, and their staff. They liked it, approved it, and we're working on all the issues now. I'm very excited about the

particular issue I've got cognizance over – developing a web based information management system for unit CO's. Tired of repeatedly updating information every month, only to see that it's still not accurate the next month? We're gonna fix that! We'll have an initial system out to the field before the summer's over.

Our **June DWE Leadership Conference** is coming soon. I did get a couple of inputs regarding what you'd like to see. I'll be finalizing the schedule next week, so if you have any more ideas, send them in now!

**Medical Readiness** is in a slow, but steady, climb. We're increasing our readiness by a little over 2% a month. The direction is good, so thank you for your efforts. However, we're still at just over 50%, so please continue your efforts and keep the numbers climbing. Sometimes it's just a matter of documentation, so talk to Medical and ensure that your records are accurate.

**NMCI** is still on the March. Our spaces are being rewired with fiber-optic cables now, so we're still on track for a June cutover. Make sure you have your requirements in to LCDR Tom Walsh in the Program Manager Division. Every CO will get a laptop, except for those who have requested a Blackberry. Most of you should not need desktops for your units since you drill in the gaining command spaces. If you do need them, however, make sure to tell Tom very soon what you need.

Customer Service still our focus and we just designated Ms. Alma Estipona as our **Customer Service Czar**. She'll be the focal point and recipient of all our customer service inputs – customer service forms, letters, e-mails, course critiques, etc. Everyone on the staff here will forward the remarks we receive to her. She can then analyze them to determine where we're doing great and where we need improvement.

*As usual,  
thanks for your  
great work.*

## Naval Air Reserve San Diego Newsletter

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## From the XO's desk

Your Naval Air Reserve FTS staff continues to assess and improve the processes we at the NAR manage and control. As we are in a state of war, the efficient optimization of supportive services you need to effectively serve the Fleet is now needed more than ever. Communication is key to the effectiveness on how we can assess and improve this command's mission capability. As you are the primary customer of the support services we provide, we not only seek your comments and input but need them as well. As you come to the NAR and work with your FTS teammates please take the time to fill out the customer feedback form. We cannot fix or improve things if we are unaware there is a problem. We are currently in the process of establishing a Customer Service Czar who will aggregate monthly input, categorize, analyze and summarize the feedback data for leadership evaluation. This is a Force wide initiative and your input will not be ignored and is vital the effectiveness of the program. The Reserve Force Team continues to enhance the capabilities of the Fleet and your NAR FTS staff is here to support you.

Commander Mark Vizcarra  
Executive Officer  
Naval Air Reserve San Diego

## Health Services



If you are pregnant you must come to medical to update your status. Per current directives, you can drill and even complete your AT prior to your 32<sup>nd</sup> week of gestation. Your record will also be updated in RAMIS and protect you from being mobilized in the event that you are needed. Please come by medical and we can give you the details of what you can and can't do.

Medical readiness for the NAR is currently at 51% ready. The national average is 55% with surface units at 61% and air units at 43%. As you see we have a long way to go. The NAR goal is 95%. When thinking of readiness the most important part is the health and dental readiness. All the training you get won't make you ready if your medical and dental is not complete. During Desert Storm many were held back due to health and dental, none were held back because of training. Stop by medical so we can see if you are ready. in receiving an unexcused absence, or a delay in getting paid. The form can be faxed to 619-545-2617.

## Reserve Services Department

### Reserve Services

There have been recent changes to Reserve pay personnel. Due to YN2 (SW) Fernandez's transfer, all Intel unit pay inquiries will now be directed to YN2 Esquibel. She can be reached at 619-545-2656 or via email at [esquibel@cnrf.navy.mil](mailto:esquibel@cnrf.navy.mil). We are currently experiencing multiple communication errors due to NSIPS software. Drills that are inputted locally do not always successfully complete transactions into RHS/DFAS. If after completion of a drill if payment is not received within 14-17 days please notify your unit clerk immediately.

### Billet Control

Important dates to remember for Apply:  
31 January COMNAVRESFORCOM (N12) post Vacancy Manager and APPLY Program on the web for registration (<https://apply.nola.navy.mil/>).

1 February Board membership and Board support application packages due to COMNAVRESFORCOM (N12) (email applications to [applyfy04@hq.cnrf.nola.navy.mil](mailto:applyfy04@hq.cnrf.nola.navy.mil)).

15 March Deadline for RLOs to complete

gaining command comments to VACANCY database, via the web.

30 April On-line registration cut-off for APPLY program.

18 May Final day for Drilling Reservist updates to their on-line billet applications.

6 June Final day for Drilling Reservist supplemental package submissions to the President of the Board.

15 June FY-04 Board convenes (Board member Indoctrination).

16 June Board membership posted on web.

27 June FY-04 Board concludes (estimated date).

NLT

11 July FY-04 Board results released by COMNAVRESFORCOM (N00).

For more information on National Command and Senior Officer (06/05) Noncommand Screening and Assignment Board see COMNAVRESFORCOMNOTE 5400 or log onto Naval Reserve Forces Command website: [http://www.navres.navy.mil/navresfor/navsurf/staff\\_codes/N1/applyfy04/index.html](http://www.navres.navy.mil/navresfor/navsurf/staff_codes/N1/applyfy04/index.html)

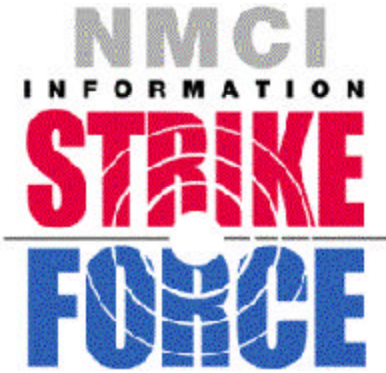


COURAGE

# Automated Information Services

The New Year brings many changes to our Automated Information Systems Department. Computer network services and desktop computer support are being transitioned to the Naval Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI). This is a Navy wide change designed to standardize computer services, improve performance and increase security. A description of NMCI can be found at <http://www.nmci-isf.com/nmci.htm>.

What NMCI means to you is that you get a new computer and support contracted by the Navy. Until the new equipment and network is installed we are counting on our existing setup. Two contractors are working with us to help keep everything working and to bring in the new computers without any interruption in your work. They are Thomas E. Lindgren and Matthew T. Brooks. Our lead System Administrator, Eddie Trujillo, has joined the NMCI team and will work with Thom and Matt during the transition.



CAPT Roy will schedule a Command Brief soon to answer all your questions about the NMCI Transition.

My work as Department Head will continue but in a different role. One of my primary duties will be to make sure that NMCI is providing complete and efficient computer services to you. Certain parts of our computer services, such as the Defense Messaging System, will remain a Command responsibility. IT2 Padilla will ably assist me. During the transition period the NMCI Team will be here to help.

It has been my pleasure to build the computer network and desktop systems we all use everyday. Many talented people helped make our computer systems a reality over the years. I am fully committed to make sure that the new systems and services work even better and that you can continue the excellent work for which Naval Air Reserve San Diego is known.

## Reserve Programs Department

Greetings from RPD! Welcome to a New Year 2003 and a host of new changes within the NAR. We have some personnel changes as well as some process changes within RPD.

RPD's Evaluation Coordinator, Tony, has departed and we bid him the customary fair winds and following seas. His replacement, Clyde from Oak Harbor, Washington reported to us on 30 December. George, a navy veteran, is our new Nows Coordinator and comes to us from local San Diego. I'm sure the both of them will provide the outstanding customer service you expect for the NAR.

Our annual local O5/O6 and O4 command and non-command selection board has been discontinued indefinitely. All our O5/O6 and O4 CO billets will go before the National Apply Board for FY04. There are some items that need to be fulfilled, namely billet descriptions for proper slating of skills and required experience. Expect further training on Apply board procedures this January DWE.

A new infrastructure change, effective January 2003, will involve the development of a Program Manager Division, which reports to the RPD. All Program Managers will be designated primary duty positions vice collateral duty as it was in the past. This is intended to place greater emphasis on customer service for increased communication and efficiency. Expect an instruction to hit the streets by the January Drill Weekend.

### **MOBILIZATION UPDATE**

The month of December saw a Force-wide "Readiness Standdown" during which all of our Reservists went through the mobilization activation checklist, updated personnel data systems, and started completing action items that can be performed prior to mobilization. Every Reserve unit commanding officer or detachment officer-in-charge also completed a unit readiness survey. This opportunity for each Naval Reservist to examine and improve his or her mobilization readiness is part of an ongoing effort to maximize readiness throughout the Reserve Force. Completion of the stand down does not mean that a Reservist will be mobilized.

"We want to make sure each Reservist can process through every item on the checklist, should mobilization orders be initiated," said CAPT Carl Hill, Naval Reserve Force Mobilization Coordinator. "This is nothing new for the Reserve Force-we have been doing this all along. We're just focusing everyone's efforts at this time to help minimize any future roadblocks."

If you have any questions regarding mobilization issues, please contact your unit mobilization officer at 619-545-2757.

# Operation Uplink Phone Card

If you would like to request an Operation Uplink Phone Card for yourself or a loved one who is a hospitalized veterans or active duty military personnel deployed away from home, please click on the website link below.

You can only request one card per service member in any 60 day time period.

Phone cards will only be sent to the following types of addresses:

- 1) military address
- 2) hospital or nursing home

It will take 2-6 weeks for delivery during the holidays.

<http://www.operationuplink.org/request.cfm>

Operation Uplink, VFW  
Foundation National  
Headquarters  
406 West 34th Street,  
Suite 718  
Kansas City, MO 64111



## Supply Department Chop Talk



Well, Christmas has finally come and gone and everyone is hopefully a little lighter in the pocket and tighter in the belt from eating massive amounts of food. The new berthing instruction is in place and policies can be viewed at the NARSD website and clicking on Supply and the berthing link. Likewise the uniform policy is also in place at the Uniform Link also on the Supply page. You can now sign up for berthing up to year in advance within the Fiscal Year- just ensure that you cancel your reservations if you are unable to attend. If you are a "no show" twice- your berthing privileges are revoked.

Berthing requests can be made on line by visiting [www.narsd.navy.mil](http://www.narsd.navy.mil) and clicking on the Supply Berthing Page. You can still request berthing by signing up in advance at the Supply Customer Service Counter in building 251, room 123 or calling (619) 545-4583/4550. You may also e-mail us at [sdberth@cnrf.navy.mil](mailto:sdberth@cnrf.navy.mil). Remember, berthing requests

must be made 14 days prior to the drill date. Personnel requesting berthing after that date will be put on a stand by list with a high possibility of being financially liable for their berthing.

New reservists requiring uniforms are required to come into the NAR to get measured before orders are placed. If a reservist needs a new uniform, they must come in to NAR and turn in their old uniforms before new uniforms will be ordered. If you have any questions concerning uniforms or the status of your order, please call (619) 545-4550.

